

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W
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R 271628Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO USIA WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 6888

UNCLAS MOSCOW 11864

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJ: PHYSICIAN FOR PHOTOGRAPHY USA EXHIBIT

REF: MOSCOW 10383; MOSCOW 11343; MOSCOW 11611, USIA 22359

1. I AM MOST CONCERNED WITH AGENCY'S DELAY IN SUPPLYING REPLACEMENT DOCTOR FOR PHOTOGRAPHY USA EXHIBIT IN KIEV. GIVEN FREQUENT OCCURRENCE OF MEDICAL PROBLEMS AMONG EXHIBIT STAFFERS AND SOME EXTRELY SERIOUS CASES IN PAST (DEATH OF EXHIBIT GUIDE IN VOLGOGRAD; EMERGENCY EVACUATION OF SPECIALIST FROM IRKUTSK), PROVISION OF PHYSICIAN DURING PERIODS WHEN EXHIBIT STAFF IS ON DUTY OUTSIDE MOSCOW IS IMPERATIVE AND SHOULD BE GIVEN SAME PRIORITY AS PROVISION OF EXHIBIT DIRECTOR AND GUIDES.

2. GAP WE ARE EXPERIENCING AT PRESENT IS ALL THE MORE SERIOUS SINCE THE EMBASSY WAS NOT NOTIFIED IN TIME TO MAKE SURE THAT AN AMERICAN DOCTOR WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN MOSCOW TO PROVIDE ADVICE IN SERIOUS EMERGENCIES. EMBASSY'S DOCTOR IS CURRENTLY ON LEAVE, WHICH MEANS THAT DURING ENTIRE PERIOD OF EXHIBIT SHOWING IN KIEV NO AMERICAN MEDICAL SPECIALIST WILL BE AVAILABLE IN SOVIET UNION TO COPE WITH POSSIBLE EMERGENCIES. GIVEN UNSATISFACTORY STATE OF SOVIET MEDICAL FACILITIES, PARTICULARLY OUTSIDE MOSCOW, I BELIEVE THAT WE ARE TAKING AN UNACCEPTABLE RISK IF REPLACEMENT DOCTOR DOES NOT ARRIVE BEFORE LATE AUGUST. I TRUST THAT EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO SUPPLY A PHYSICIAN MUCH SOONER.

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MATLOCK

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NNN

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